

LEA

6. Hazard, or effect of leaping.
Methinks, it were an easy leap
To pluck bright honour from the pale-fac'd moon. *Shak.*
You take a precipice for no leap of danger,
And woo your own destruction. *Shakespeare's Henry VIII.*
Behold that dreadful downfall of a rock,
Where yon old fisher views the waves from high!
'Tis the convenient leap I mean to try. *Dryd. Theocritus.*
LEAP-FROG. *n. f.* [*leap and frog*.] A play of children, in which they imitate the jump of frogs.
If I could win a lady at leap-frog, I should quickly leap into a wife. *Shakespeare's Henry V.*
LEAP-YEAR. *n. f.*
Leap-year or bissextile is every fourth year, and so called from its *leaping* a day more than year than in a common year: so that the common year hath 365 days, but the leap-year 366; and then February hath 29 days, which in common years hath but 28. To find the leap-year you have this rule:
Divide by 4; what's left shall be
For leap-year 0; for past 1, 2, 3. *Harris.*
That the sun consisteth of 365 days and almost six hours, wanting eleven minutes; which six hours omitted will, in process of time, largely deprave the compute; and this is the occasion of the bissextile or leap-year. *Brown's Vulg. Err.*
TO LEARN. *v. a.* [*learn*, Saxon.]
1. To gain the knowledge or skill of.
Learn a parable of the fig-tree. *Mat. xxiv. 32.*
He, in a shorter time than was thought possible, *learned* both to speak and write the Arabian tongue. *Knolles.*
Learn, wretches! *learn* the motions of the mind,
And the great moral end of humankind. *Dryd. Persius.*
You may rely upon my tender care,
To keep him far from perils of ambition:
All he can *learn* of me, will be to weep! *A. Philips.*
2. To teach. [It is observable, that in many of the European languages the same word signifies to learn and to teach; to gain or impart knowledge.]
He would *learn*
The lion stoop to him in lowly-wife,
A lesson hard. *Spenser's Fairy Queen, b. i.*
You taught me language, and my profit on't
Is, I know not how to curse: the red plague rid you,
For *learning* me your language. *Shakespeare's Tempest.*
A thousand more mischances than this one,
Have *learn'd* me how to brook this patiently. *Shakespeare.*
Hast thou not *learn'd* me how
To make perfumes? *Shakespeare's Cymbeline.*
Ye might *learn* in us not to think of men above that which is written. *1 Cor. iv. 6.*
TO LEARN. *v. n.* To take pattern.
Take my yoke upon you, and *learn* of me; for I am meek and lowly. *Mat. xi. 29.*
In imitation of sounds, that man should be the teacher is no part of the matter; for birds will *learn* one of another. *Bacon's Natural History, N^o. 237.*
LEARNED. *adj.* [*from learn*.]
1. Versed in science and literature.
It is indifferent to the matter in hand, which way the *learned* shall determine of it. *Locke.*
Some by old words to fame have made pretence:
Such labour'd nothings, in so strange a style,
Amaze th' unlearn'd, and make the *learned* smile. *Pope.*
The *learned* met with free approach,
Although they came not in a coach. *Swift.*
The best account is given of them by their own authors:
but I trust more to the table of the *learned* bishop of Bath. *Arbutnot on Cains.*
2. Skilled; skilful; knowing.
Though train'd in arms, and *learn'd* in martial arts,
Thou chusest not to converse men but hearts. *Granville.*
3. Skilled in scholastic knowledge.
Till a man can judge whether they be truths or no, his understanding is but little improved: and thus men of much reading are greatly *learned*, but may be little knowing. *Locke.*
LEARNEDLY. *adv.* [*from learned*.] With knowledge; with skill.
Much
He spoke, and *learnedly*, for life; but all
Was either pitted in him, or forgotten. *Shakespeare's H. VIII.*
The apostle seemed in his eyes but *learnedly* mad. *Hooker.*
Ev'ry coxcomb wears as *learnedly* as they. *Swift.*
LEARNING. *n. f.* [*from learn*.]
1. Literature; skill in languages or sciences; generally scholastic knowledge.
Learning hath its infancy, when it is almost childish; then its youth, when luxuriant and juvenile; then its strength of years, when solid; and, lastly, its old age, when dry and exhaust.
To tongue or pudding thou hast no pretence,
Learning thy talent is, but mine is sense. *Prior.*
As Moses was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians,

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- so it is manifest from this chapter, that St. Paul was a great master in all the *learning* of the Greeks. *Bentley's Sermon.*
2. Skill in any thing good or bad.
An art of contradiction by way of scorn, a *learning* where-with we were long since forewarned, that the miserable times whereunto we are fallen should abound. *Hooker.*
LEARNER. *n. f.* [*from learn*.] One who is yet in his rudiments; one who is acquiring some new art or knowledge.
The late *learners* cannot so well take the ply, except it be in some minds that have not suffered themselves to fix. *Bacon.*
Nor can a *learner* work so cheap as a skilful practised artist can. *Grant's Bills of Mortality.*
LEASE. *n. f.* [*latifere*, French. *Spelman*.]
1. A contract by which, in consideration of some payment, a temporary possession is granted of houses or lands.
Why, cousin, wert thou regent of the world,
It were a shame to let this land by *lease*. *Shakespeare.*
Lords of the world have but for life their *leases*.
And that too, if the lessor please, must cease. *Denham.*
I have heard a man talk with contempt of bishops' *leases*, as on a worse foot than the rest of his estate. *Swift.*
2. Any tenure.
Our high-plac'd Macbeth
Shall live the *lease* of nature. *Shakespeare's Macbeth.*
Thou to give the world increase,
Short'n'd hast thy own life's *lease*. *Milton.*
TO LEASE. *v. a.* [*from lease*.] To let by lease.
Where the vicar *leases* his glebe, the tenant must pay the great tithes to the rector or impropriator, and the small tithes to the vicar. *Ayliffe's Paragon.*
TO LEASE. *v. n.* [*lesen*, Dutch.] To glean; to gather what the harvest men leave.
She in harvest us'd to *lease*;
But harvest done, to chare-work did aspire.
Meat, drink, and two-pence, was her daily hire. *Dryden.*
LEASER. *n. f.* [*from lease*.] Gleaner; gatherer after the reaper.
There was no office which a man from England might not have; and I looked upon all who were born here as only in the condition of *leasers* and gleaners. *Swift.*
LEASH. *n. f.* [*lisse*, French; *lese*, Dutch; *laccio*, Italian.] A leather thong, by which a falconer holds his hawk, or a coultier leads his greyhound.
Holding Coriolani in the name of Rome,
Even like a fawning greyhound in the *leash*,
To let him slip at will. *Shakespeare's Coriolanus.*
What I was, I am;
More straining on, for plucking back; not following
My *leash* unwillingly. *Shakespeare's Winter's Tale.*
The ravish'd soul being flown such game, would break
those *leashes* that tie her to the body. *Boyle.*
2. A tierce; three.
I am sworn brother to a *leash* of drawers, and can call them all by their Christian names. *Shakespeare's Henry IV.*
Some thought when he did gabble
Th'ad heard three labourers of Babel,
Or Cerberus himself pronounce
A *leash* of languages at once. *Hudibras, p. i.*
3. A band wherewith to tie any thing in general.
I saw her hand; she has a *leathern* hand,
A free-stone colour'd hand: I verily did think
That her old gloves were on. *Shakespeare's As you like it.*
The wretched animal heav'd forth such groans,
That their discharge did stretch his *leathern* coat
Almost to bursting. *Shakespeare's As you like it.*
A splendid shilling.
LEATHERSELLER. *n. f.* [*leather and seller*.] He who deals in leather, and vends it.
LEAVE. *n. f.* [*leap*, Saxon; from *lyan*, to grant.]
1. Grant of liberty; permission; allowance.
By your *leave*, Ireneus, notwithstanding all this your careful foresight, methinks I see an evil lurk unspied. *Spenser.*
When him his dearest Una did behold,
Disdaining life, desiring *leave* to dye. *Spenser.*
I make bold to press upon you.
—You're welcome; give us *leave*, drawer. *Shakespeare.*
The days
Of Sylla's sway, when the free sword took *leave*
To act all that it would. *Ben. Jonson's Cataline.*
Thrice happy snake! that in her sleeve
I've tumbld' past the throw; and in his praise
Have almost stamp'd the *leaving*.
As folks, quoth Richard, prone to *leaving*,
Say things at first, because they're pleasing,
Then prove what they have once asserted,
Nor care to have their lie defected:
Till their own dreams at length deceive them,
And oft repeating they believe them. *Prior.*
Trading free shall thrive again,
Nor *leavings* lead affright the ivain. *Gay's Pastoral.*
LEAST. *adj.* the superlative of *little*. [*leap*, Saxon. This word *Wallis* would persuade us to write *left*, that it may be analogous

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- analogous to *left*; but surely the profit is not worth the change.] Little beyond others; smallest.
I am not worthy of the *least* of all the mercies shewed to thy servant. *Gen. xxxii. 10.*
A man can no more have a positive idea of the greatest than he has of the *least* space. *Locke.*
LEAST. *adv.* In the lowest degree; in a degree below others; less than any other way.
He resolv'd to wave his suit,
Or for a while play *least* in fight. *Hudibras, p. i.*
Ev'n that avert; I chuse it not;
But taste it as the *least* unhappy lot. *Dryd. Knight's Tale.*
No man more truly knows to place a right value on your friendship, than he who *least* deserves it on all other accounts than his due sense of it. *Pope's Letters.*
TO LEAST. } To say no more; not to demand or affirm
AT LEASTWISE. } more than is barely sufficient at the lowest degree.
Upon the mast they saw a young man, at *least* if he were a man, who fate as on horseback. *Stacey.*
Every effect doth after a sort contain, at *leastwise* resemble, the cause from which it proceedeth. *Hooker, b. i.*
The remedies, if any, are to be proposed from a constant course of the milken diet, continued at *least* a year. *Temple.*
A fiend may deceive a creature of more excellency than himself, at *least* by the tacit permission of the omniscient Being. *Dryden's Dedication to Juvenal.*
Let useful observations be at *least* some part of the subject of your conversation. *Watts's Improvement of the Mind.*
LEASY. *adj.* [This word seems formed from the same root with *leiser*, French, or *leser*.] Flimsy; of weak texture.
He never leaveth, while the sense itself be left loose and loose. *Acham's Schoolmaster.*
LEATHER. *n. f.* [*leðen*, Saxon; *leathr*, Erie.]
8. Dressed hides of animals.
He was a hairy man, and girt with a girdle of leather about his loins. *2 Kings i. 8.*
The shepherd's homely curds,
His cold thin drink out of his leather bottle;
Is far beyond a prince's delicacies. *Shakespeare's Henry VI.*
And if two boots keep out the weather,
What need you have two hides of leather. *Prior.*
2. Skin; ironically.
Returning found in limb and wind,
Except some leather loft behind. *Swift.*
LEATHERCOAT. *n. f.* [*leather and coat*.] An apple with a tough rind.
There is a dish of leathercoats for you. *Shakespeare's H. IV.*
LEATHERDRESSER. *n. f.* [*leather and dresser*.] He who dresses leather.
He removed to Cumæ; and by the way was entertained at the house of one Tychius, a leather-dresser. *Pope.*
LEATHER-MOUTHD. *adj.* [*leather and mouth*.]
By a leather-mouthed fish, I mean such as have their teeth in their throat; as, the chub or cheven. *Walton's Angler.*
LEATHERY. *adj.* [*from leather*.] Resembling leather.
Wormius calls this crust a *leathery* skin. *Grew's Museum.*
LEATHERN. *adj.* [*from leather*.] Made of leather.
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A free-stone colour'd hand: I verily did think
That her old gloves were on. *Shakespeare's As you like it.*
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- On their departure, most of all shew evil. *Shakespeare.*
There is further compliment of *leave* taking between France and him. *Shakespeare's King Lear.*
Here my father comes;
A double blessing is a double grace;
Occasion smiles upon a second *leave*. *Shakespeare's Hamlet.*
But my dear nothings, take your *leave*,
No longer must you me deceive. *Sackling.*
Many stars may be visible in our hemisphere, that are not so at present; and many which are at present shall take *leave* of our horizon, and appear unto southern habitations. *Brown's Vulgar Errors, b. iv. c. 13.*
TO LEAVE. *v. a.* pret. *I left*; *I have left*. [Of the derivation of this word the etymologists give no satisfactory account.]
1. To quit; to forsake.
A man shall *leave* his father and his mother, and cleave to his wife. *Gen. ii. 24.*
When they were departed from him, they *left* him in great disceases. *2 Chron. xxiv. 25.*
If they love lees, and *leave* the luffy wine,
Envy them not their palates with the swine. *B. Johnson.*
2. To desert; to abandon.
He that is of an unthankful mind, will *leave* him in danger that delivered him. *Ecclesi. xxix. 17.*
3. To have remaining at death.
There be of them that have *left* a name behind them. *Ecclesi. xlv. 8.*
4. Not to deprive of.
They still have *left* me the providence of God, and all the promises of the gospel, and my charity to them too. *Taylor.*
5. To suffer to remain.
If it be done without order, the mind comprehendeth less that which is set down; and besides, it *leaveth* a suspicion, as if more might be said than is expressed. *Bacon.*
These things must be *left* uncertain to farther discoveries in future ages. *Abbot's Description of the World.*
Who those are, to whom this right by descent belongs, he *leaves* out of the reach of any one to discover from his writings. *Locke.*
6. Not to carry away.
They encamp'd against them, and destroyed the increase of the earth, and *left* no sustenance for Israel. *Judge. vi. 4.*
He shall eat the fruit of thy cattle; which also shall not *leave* thee either corn, wine, or oil. *Deut. xxviii. 48.*
Vastus gave strict commandment, that they should *leave* behind them unnecessary baggage. *Knolles's History.*
7. To fix as a token or remembrance.
This I *leave* with my reader, as an occasion for him to consider, how much he may be beholden to experience. *Locke.*
8. To bequeath; to give as inheritance.
That peace thou *leav'st* to thy imperial line,
That peace; Oh happy shade, be ever thine! *Dryden.*
9. To give up; to resign.
Thou shalt not glean thy vineyard; thou shalt *leave* them for the poor and stranger. *Lev. xix. 10.*
If a wife man were *left* to himself, and his own choice, to with the greatest good to himself he could devise; the sum of all his wishes would be this, That there were just such a being as God is. *Tillotson's Sermon. 1.*
10. To permit without interposition.
Whether Esau were a vassal, I *leave* the reader to judge. *Locke.*
11. To cease to do; to desist from.
Let us return, lest my father *leave* caring for the asses, and take thought for us. *1 Sam. ix. 5.*
12. To *leave off*. To desist from; to forbear.
If, upon any occasion, you bid him *leave off* the doing of any thing, you must be sure to carry the point. *Locke.*
In proportion as old age came on, he *left off* fox-hunting. *Addison's Spectator, N^o. 115.*
13. To *leave off*. To forsake.
He began to *leave off* some of his old acquaintance, his roaring and bullying about the streets; he put on a serious air. *Arbutnot's History of John Bull.*
14. To *leave out*. To omit; to neglect.
My good Camillo;
I am so fraught with curious business, that
I *leave out* ceremony. *Shakespeare's Winter's Tale.*
Shua they to treat with me too?
No good lady,
You may partake: I have told 'em who you are.
I should be loth to be *left out*, and here too. *Ben. Jonson.*
What is set down by order and division doth demonstrate, that nothing is *left out* or omitted, but all is there. *Bacon.*
Beside till utmost end
Of all thy dues be done, and none *left out*,
Ere nice morn on the Indian steep
From her cabin'd loop-hole peep.
We ask, if thoue subvert
Reason's establish'd maxims, who assert
That we the world's existence may conceive,
Though we one atom *out* of matter *leave*. *Blackmore.*
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I always